



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

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08/327,092

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33M1/0825

| EXAMINER | |
|-----------|--------------|
| WILLSE, D | |
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| 3308 | // |

DATE MAILED: 08/25/97

Below is a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

ADVISORY ACTION

☒ THE PERIOD FOR RESPONSE:

- a) ☒ is extended to run _____ or continues to run 3 months from the date of the final rejection
- b) ☐ expires three months from the date of the final rejection or as of the mailing date of this Advisory Action, whichever is later. In no event however, will the statutory period for the response expire later than six months from the date of the final rejection.

Any extension of time must be obtained by filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a), the proposed response and the appropriate fee. The date on which the response, the petition, and the fee have been filed is the date of the response and also the date for the purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. Any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.17 will be calculated from the date of the originally set shortened statutory period for response or as set forth in b) above.

☐ Appellant's Brief is due in accordance with 37 CFR 1.192(a).

☒ Applicant's response to the final rejection, filed 8-13-97 has been considered with the following effect, but it is not deemed to place the application in condition for allowance:

1. ☐ The proposed amendments to the claim and/or specification will not be entered and the final rejection stands because:
- ☐ There is no convincing showing under 37 CFR 1.116(b) why the proposed amendment is necessary and was not earlier presented.
 - ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search. (See Note).
 - ☐ They raise the issue of new matter. (See Note).
 - ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal.
 - ☐ They present additional claims without cancelling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: An Examiner's Amendment cannot be made because more than 6 months has elapsed since the mailing date of the final office action. In claim 51, line 7, "comprising" lacks syntax; on line 11, "said tibial hinge components" lacks a proper antecedent basis. Claim 49 is indefinite because claim 41 and others lack a proper antecedent basis for "said slot" and "said hinge pin".

2. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claims _____ would be allowed if submitted in a separately filed amendment cancelling the non-allowable claims.
3. ☒ Upon the filing an appeal, the proposed amendment ☒ will be entered ☐ will not be entered and the status of the claims will be as follows:

Claims allowed: 41-48 and 50

Claims objected to: _____

Claims rejected: 49, 51, and 54-58

However;

☒ Applicant's response has overcome the following rejection(s): rejections under §102

4. ☐ The affidavit, exhibit or request for reconsideration has been considered but does not overcome the rejection because _____

5. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will not be considered because applicant has not shown good and sufficient reasons why it was not earlier presented.

☐ The proposed drawing correction ☐ has ☐ has not been approved by the examiner.

☒ Other The Applicant's Response of 8-13-97 is deemed to be sufficient in satisfying 37 CFR §1.8(b) (MPEP §512).

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